it endurable to Europeans. The total area of land is 54,000 square miles, and the population some 8,000,000. The flora is wonderfully profuse, comprising teak, sandal and camphor

Manila is a splendid city, set on the margin of

one of the finest harbors in the world. It has an ancient forfress, fine churches, a gay parade, busy streets and canals, parks and palaces, hotels and

theatres. The inhabitants are an amiable and handsome race. They dress in semi-European garb, of cloth made of the fine hemp fibre, or of

he still more exquisite pineapple silk. Their wellings are neat and orderly, almost invariably

adorned with colored pictures of the Madonna and some of the saints. Music everywhere abounds. Never was a people more given up to it.

Every one plays some instrument, and on fedays and holidays brass bands are plentiful

days and holidays brass bands are plentiful as blackberries, while illuminations, decorations and general merrymaking, unmarred by drunkenness or rowdyism, surpass anything of the kind to be found elsewhere in the world. The people would have made this a model colony if only some measure of their and construing government had been

ure of just and generous government had been given to them.

SOME MINOR REMNANTS. Besides these, what is left to Spain? There are

the Canaries, but they are, like the Balearies,

reckoned administratively a part of Spain itself,

and not as colonies. The Sulus are really a part

of the Philippine group. There are the Carolines,

with 22,000 population, in the Western Pacific.

They have belonged to Spain for centuries, but were long so neglected that Germany raised her flag over them a few years back. Spain protested, with my clamor, and the Pope, as arbitrator, sustained ner title to them. But, all told, they are not worth the firing of a six-pound shot.

Still less significant are the neighboring Ladrones or Mariana Islands, one of the most

Still less significant are the neighboring Laddrones, or Mariana Islands, one of the most worthless groups in Polynesia. Least of all, the Pelews, also in that region. In Africa there is the desert coast from Cape Juby to Cape Blanco, of some little value, perhaps, to the fishermen of the Canarles. Spain claims a protectorate over it, but France owns all the "hinterland," and the

it, but France owns all the "hinterland," and the coast is as barren as rock and sand can make it. She claims, too, a portion of the French Congo, from the Campo to the Muni River—a claim which France denies and which will never be allowed. Fernando Po she dees own, an island off the coast of the Cameroons, and also the tiny isle of Annobon, 500 miles to the southwest. Add to these a bit of land on Corisco Bay, Ifni, and Ceuta, the last a mere fortress and prison, and we have the extent of her holdings on the Dark Continent. All of them put together, and all the Polynesian islands added, would not make one fair province. Yet, apart from Cuba and Porto Rico and the Philippines, now in fierce and probably final revolt, these are all that are left.

ably final revolt, these are all that are left.

HOW RUIN CAME.

The cause of Spain's decline resides in the

genius of her people. The elements that have

given them distinction have also caused their

ruin. First, pride. Not a noble, generous pride,

though, indeed, there have been flashes of that,

but a narrow, selfish and intolerant passion, fit

profit of Spain. That has been the story of every colony and the secret of every colony's revolt As in our day in Cuba, so in the past in Peru, it Mexico, in New Granada, in Buenos Ayres, The

ains-General and Governors, only fourteen were

ains-General and doctrions, or of colonial birth.
In Cuba only the Spanish "carpet-baggers" are

allowed to vote or hold office. In one sample dis-trict, Guines, there are 13,000 inhabitants. Only

trict, Guines, there are 13,000 inhabitants. Only 500 of these are Spaniards; all the rest are Creoles. Yet on the poll list are the names of 400 of the former, and only 32 of the latter. Eighty per cent of the Spaniards may vote, but only one-fourth of 1 per cent of the Cubans. So, in the Spanish Cortes, the Cuban representatives have not been Cubans at all, but Peninsula Spaniards; the Cubans are stored by Creoles being admitted.

EARLY GENIUS OF THE SPANISH PEOPLE-THE EMPIRE OF CHARLES AND PHILIP-ITS

CALLY ALL THAT

The time is well-nigh ripe for another Gibbon An empire founded upon the ruins of Rome, and once comparable with the latter in all its glory has passed through various stages of decline and now seems hastening to its utter fall. Indeed, as an empire it has already perished. Nothing now remains but the supine and impoverished mother country and a few scattered remnants of the once world-wide realm-those remnants distributed in every quarter of the globe. Once Spain dominated all Europe and claimed half of

it had a vast though indefinite domain-all that | escaped into the neighboring province of Newthe Portuguese adventurers had selzed upon; in Asia the splendid Philippine archipelago and various other holdings on islands and mainland; and in America, everything south of Savannah on the east and San Francisco on the west-the shores of the Gulf, the Caribbean Islands, Mexico, Central America, and the entire South American continent. Moreover, it had the finest army and navy in the world, and some of the ablest soldiers, sailors and statesmen; and the mines of the western world poured into its treasury such wealth of gold and silver as even ancient Ophir had not known.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END.

The year 1580, we may say, marked the zenith of the Spanish power, though to the beginning of the seventeenth century there was but little decline. Of all Europe, only one nation dared seriously to challenge its supremacy. But that one did. An English captain ventured to "singe the King of Spain's beard" and to play havoc with his argosies in the South Sea. Then came the destruction of the Great Armada, the first fatal blow at the world-wide power. Thereafter were the blows all struck by foreign foes. In her tyrant kings Spain had her own worst foes. They had done her vast harm a century or more before, when they expelled the Jews, the best Africa, all of America, and a commanding place I tradesmen and scholars of the nation.



MORRO CASTLE, HAVANA

Power in Europe, is the least of all foreign landholders in Africa, and sees the last of her American and Asian possessions slipping from her

No empire ever began its course with higher promise than did Spain. The peninsula is singularly favored by nature. Its climate is genial. its soil well watered and fertile and abounding in useful and precious metals. Its geographical position gives it command of entrance to and exit from the Mediterranean, an ample frontage on both that sea and the Atlantic, ready access to all the lands of Southern Europe, and close connection with Africa. Nor were its people forsuperior to their neighbors, the Celts and Gauls beyond the Pyrenees. At any rate, when some of these latter came down and mingled with them, the Celtiberians were superior to the Who were the autochthonous Iberians? Perhaps the Basques are their unmiscegenated descendants. If not, then who are the Basques? Neither Japhetic nor Semitic, the ethnologist and linguist would say, nor yet Hametic; perhaps language comes from no rootstock elsewhere known. It is the speech Adam and Eve had in the Garden, says one. It was brought to Spain by Tubal before the confusion of tongues at Babel, says another. It is the language of the angels, says a third, which the devil once tried to learn, but mastering only three words in seven says a fourth, in it you spell a word Solomon and pronounce it Nebuchadnezzar.

But however good the original stock, the advantages of a composite or cosmopolitan population were presently added. First came the Celts, as we have already seen. Then Phoenicia. Egypt and Greece successively added their quotas. Next came the Carthaginians, the most liberal contributors yet, and then, because of them, the Romans. The latter found the Iberians far more difficult to subdue than any of the purely Celtic tribes. It was an inch-by-inch struggle over the whole peninsula, not completed until the time of Augustus Caesar. Then Spain became more Roman, if possible, than Rome itself, Italian and Iberian fraternizing, intermaxrying, commingling beyond possibility of preserving traces of the separate strains. The literature and arts of Rome there attained their well-nigh best development. Spain gave to Rome in arms and letters such names as those of Trajan, Martial, Lucan, Seneca, and Quintilian, while the names of Leon (Legio), Saragossa (Caesar Augusta), Pampeluna (Pompelopolis), Merida (Emerita Augusta), and many others still tell in Spain the tale of ancient Latin glory. Then came the conquerors of the conquering Romans, the Goths and their allies. The Suevi established themselves in Lusitania, the Vandals made their home in and gave their name to Andalusia, and the Visigoths set up a kingdom which outlasted all its contemporaries of like origin. These added to the already mixed blood a virile Northern tincture, and then in turn yielded to a contribution from the South and East, brought thither by the Moors. With such forbears the Spaniard of to-day is well entitled to be called "hidalgo"-"the son of some-

## A WORLD-WIDE EMPIRE.

Such was the composition of the Nation which for many years dominated the whole continent of Europe, and founded the first Empire upon which it could truly be said the sun never set. The fifteenth century saw its rise, when famous navigators went out toward all the corners of the earth to find new worlds. Vasco da Gama and Magellan may be claimed for Spain, the lat ter because he was actually in her service, the former because Portugal and all its findings presently became an appanage of Spain. Greatest of all, however, was Columbus, who indeed discovered "a New World for Leon and Castile," and whose great adventure called forth from Pope Alexander VI the famous "Bull of Partition," of May 4, 1493, which gave to Spain all the lands of the earth not already possessed by a Christian prince, lying west of a line crawn north and south, from pole to pole, a hundred leagues west of the Azores. True, the French and the British disregarded the Holy Father's decree, and presently began making raids and even establishing colonies beyond the forbidden line, and after a time such men as Hawkins, Drake and Oxenham took to disputing Spanish sovereignty wherever they found it. But for a long time Spain held her sway over the bulk of

the Western Hemisphere. The history of Charles I of Spain, who was Charles V, Emperor of Germany, was the history of all Europe. The history of his son Philip II was the history of the whole known world. For under the former, Spanish authority was domhant throughout the German cities and dukedoms-the Holy Roman Empire; and though Charles failed broken-heartedly in his great scheme of making his son his successor and the imperial dignity thereafter hereditary in his line, he yet left to Philip a realm compared with which that of Charlemagne or of Napoleon seemed meagre indeed. For under that despot the Spanish Empire included the whole Iberian Peninsula and the Balearics, Roussillon and Cerdagne north of the Pyrenees, the island of Sardinia, Sicily, Naples and Milan, Franche-Comté, Holland and Belgium, and, practically speaking, Austria, Bohemia, Hungary and Transylvania. In Africa in prison-murdered, it may be surmised. Bolivar

in Asia. To-day she is scarcely a third-class | they expelled the Moors, too, and thus deprived the country of its best industrial class. Philip II had issued heartless edicts against them, but his successor in 1609 ruthlessly drove them all into exile and poverty. The work was done with studied brutality. Half a million of the most worthy people of Spain were expatriated. In that deed the domestic industries of the country received a blow from which they have never recovered. Soldiers, priests, and an ignorant and

lazy peasantry were all that were left. In the mean time other troubles were brewing abroad. The Netherlands first revolted and formed the United Provinces in 1609. Nor was that all. The sturdy Dutchmen a few years later destroyed what remnants remained of the Span-

In September, 1812, Bolivar fled to New-Grand da. In October he re-entered Venezuela with 500 men, declaring war to the knife against Spain. Victory followed victory. In August, 1813, he reentered Caracas in triumph. Then came reverses, and he had to flee to Jamaica. For some years more the struggle went on, until 1821, when New-Granada and Venezuela were united as an independent Republic under the name of Colombia, the last of the Spanish troops being driven out in 1824. Ecuador was added to the republic in 1822. Peru formed another State in 1825, under the name of Bolivia, Peru itself-and Chili also, thanks to the genius of Dundonald-becoming independent in 1824. Mexico threw off the yoke of Spain in 1821, and Guatemala-then including all Central America-in 1822. Nor did the provinces on the Plate River lag behind. Paraguay. indeed, was first of all to win her independence, it 1814. Uruguay followed in the same year, and the Argentine Confederation, after a ten years' war, in 1824. Brazil had been lost to Spain in the seression of Portugal, and Florida was ceded to the United States in 1819. Thus, in the first quarter of this century, the entire Spanish Empire in the Western Hemisphere, save only the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, was forever lost to the declining monarchy.

CUBA AND PORTO RICO

The last of Spain's holdings in America was the first, or the first but one, that she acquired. Columbus sighted land on September 25, 1492, and actually landed on October 12. Then, on October 28, he sighted Cuba, which he supposed to be the eastern shore of Asia. "This," he wrote in his journal of that day, "is the most beautiful land ever beheld by human eyes." Beautiful it was, and occupied by a peaceful, amiable folk. These the Spaniards presently exterminated with all possible accessories of torture—a half-million people butchered in half a century. Since there was no gold in the island, Cuba was neglected and ignored for many years. But the Spanish colonized it, and ultimately found that its sugar plantations and tobacco fields were more profita-ble than gold mines. For two centuries it has proved the most valuable of all Spain's possesproved the most valuable of all Spain's posses-sions—in fact, the chief support of that bankrupt

But Cuba grew restless under the plundering But Cuba grew restless under the plundering and blundering of Spain, and early in this contury began to grope about for a path to freedom. Rebellion after rebellion arose, only to be quelled ruthlessly. A passage in an English paper in August. 1825, says: "Cuba is the Turkey of transatlantic politics, tottering to its fall, and kept from falling only by the struggles of those who centend for the right of catching her in her descent." That was seventy-one years ago. The Cuban Capitain-General's proclamation in 1830, commenting on an attempted revolt against the Cuban Captain-General's proclamation in 1830, commenting on an attempted revolt against the despotism of Ferdinand VII, who abolished the Constitution and restored the Inquisition, declares: "This happy land, the abode of peace, plenty and loyalty, present to the world a striking contrast; enjoying, under the mild government of her King, all the blessings which spring from security of property, the uninterrupted progress of the arts, education and science, while revolutions, factions, discord and anarchy have established their empire in the rebellious prov-

contemplating you as contented and happy."

There were a score of rebellions in Cuba before the Ten Years' War, which is still fresh in ish Navy, and in 1643, at Rocroy, the Spanish in- I memory. And now another and more determined but a narrow, selfish and intolerant passion, fit neither to rule nor to obey. There is one fine memory, of the Cortes, in 1393, and its dealings with a despotic King. It voted one tax he asked for, but added, as a sort of "rider" on the appropriation bill, the declaration that if he should give orders to raise another tax without the authority of the Cortes, "his orders should be obeyed, but not executed!" Remembered, too, are the proud judges of Aragon, who in the fourteenth century took this oath before the King: "We, who individually are worth more than thou, will obey thee if thou art faithful to the conditions imposed upon thee; but if not, not!"

That spirit is no more. Instead, the spirit prevails that expelled the Jews and the Moors, through sheer arrogance and bigotry: the spirit that reckoned each colonial province not an equal member of the common Empire, but an inferior thing, to be worked to the uttermost for the sole profit of Spain. That has been the story of every

PALACE OF THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL, HAVANA.

fantry, hitherto invincible, was beaten and forever broken. Portugal and her vast possessions in three continents were lost in 1640. Naples revolted in 1648, under the famous fisherman known to his comrades and on the operatic stage as Masaniello. He was assassinated by bravos in the hire of Spain, and after a long struggle the rebellion was suppressed. But Spain's hold on grasping with heroic hands at the long-coveted grasping with heroic particles and the carries of the work of the rebels in "the line of blazing villages, red in the midnight sky." Havana is, said Froude, a city of painces, as though the work of the rebels in "the line of blazing villages, red in the midnight sky." Havana is, said Froude, a city of painces, as though the work of the rebels in "the line of blazing villages, red in the midnight sky." Havana is, said Froude, a city of painces, as though the work of the rebels in "the line of blazing villages, red in the midnight sky." Havana is, said Froude, a city of painces, as though the work of the rebels in "the line of blazing villages, red in the midnight sky." Havana is, said Froude, a city of painces, as though the work of the rebels in "the line of blazing villages, red in the midnight sky." Havana is, said Froude, a city of painces, as though the work of t the two Sicilies, once loosened, was never so strong again. France seized the provinces north of the Pyrences and Franche Comté. All authority in the German States had long been lost to Spain, and the last Spanish king of the Austrian dynasty, at the close of the seventeenth century, saw his realm the prey of whichever of the Great Powers could lay hands upon it most readily, and left it unable to establish its own sovereign without foreign aid.

Equally disastrous were those times in the colonies. The Dutch, French and English seized foothold in the Guianas, and then helped themselves, one after another, to the smaller islands in the Caribbean Sea. By the time of the Dutch war of 1665 the pretensions of Spain to universal ownership in those regions were wholly ignored, and there was put into operation

"The good old rule—the simple plan.
That they should take who have the power,
And they should keep who can."

In that year Cromwell's Englishmen seized Jamaica. The French first took Tortuga, and thence sent out filibusters, who presently drove the Spanish out of Hayti-Hispaniola, Little Spainand made it a French province. Even Havana was attacked more than once. Drake had a fruitless venture at it. Penn and Venables, who took Jamaica, tried to take it but failed England did storm the forts in 1760, and held the city a few years, then gave it back to Spain. By the end of that century Trinidad, too, was snatched away and Spain's commerce with the American colonies substantially destroyed. England came to her aid at home in the Napoleonic wars, and then France in turn helped the wretched Ferdinand VII to hold his throne.

THE PASSING OF AN EMPIRE. In the early years of the present century Spanish misgovernment in the South American colonies, long-continued, began to bear its certain fruit. Secret societies were formed, which had for their object the throwing off of the Spanish Yoke. The chief founder and promoter of these was a Spanish Creole of Venezuela, Francisco Miranda by name. He had served under Washington in the American Revolution, and had become thoroughly imbued with the spirit of liberty and with the principles of republicanism. What had been done in North America could, he thought, be done in South America. He there- live to complete. He discovered the strait fore formed, in London, since it could not safely be done at Caracas, the "Gran Reunion Americana." Into this Bolivar and San Martin were initiated. For some years Miranda made occasional but futile attempts at revolution, in one of donald. Nothing of importance was achieved, however, until April 19, 1810, when Caracas openly rose against its Spanish Governor, Miranda and Beli- ar heading the revolt. Two years of conflict followed, not promising for the insurgents. Then came an earthquake. It destroyed Caracas, killing a number of people. The superstitious troops of the insurgents thought it was an omen, threw down their arms, descried or surrendered, and the rebellion was at an end.

Miranda was captured, taken to Spain and died

not been Cubans at all, but Peninsula Spaniards; two or three, at most six, Creoles being admitted. Even in local government the same rule holds asping with heroic bands at the long-coveted land of Porto Rico, which, with Cuba, makes to the remnant of Spain's Empire in America, animands but slight attention. Its history has en colorless, its individuality not significant, hangs upon the fate of Cuba, and when the grasping with heroic hands at the long-coveted prize of freedom and independence. The smaller island of Porto Rico, which, with Cuba, makes up the remnant of Spain's Empire in America, commands but slight attention. Its history has been colorless, its individuality not significant.



PALACE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, MANILA.

"Ever-Faithful Isle" is tree, the "Rich Port",

THE PHILIPPINES. Columbus declared Cuba to be the most beautiful land ever seen by human eyes. Magellan could scarcely have given higher praise to the islands he discovered on March 18, 1521. Yet could be have done so they would have deserved it, for there is no loveller group of islands in the world than the Philippines. Magellan discovered them on the one great veyage which he undertook for Spain, the first circumnavigation of the globe, which he did not name of the Eleven Thousand Virgins; then crossed the Pacific Ocean, stopping at and takin possession of the Ladrones islands, and finally reaching Tamar, one of the Philippine which he engaged the interest of the great Dun- group. He took possession of the whole archipelago in the name of the King of Spain, and entered forthwith upon the work of subduing entered forthwith upon the work of subduing and conciliating the natives. In that he was at first eminently successful, his methods far other than those of the conquerors of Cuba and Peru. But a few weeks later he fell into an ambuscade of hostile Maiays on Maitan, and was killed with a poisoned arrow. Nevertheless, his work remained, and the Phillippines have belorged to Spain from that day to the present.

The Phillippines form an important link in the great volcanic mountain range lying off the other than those of the conquerors of Cuba and Peru. But a few weeks later he fell into an ambuscade of hostile Malays on Maitan, and was killed with a poisoned arrow. Nevertheless, his work remained, and the Phillippines have belenged to Spain from that day to the present.

The Philippines form an important link in the great volcanic mountain range lying off the Asian coast—Kamchatka, the Kuriles, Japan, Formosa, the Philippines, Borneo, Java. There are two large islands, Luzon and Mindanaho.

are filled with Importations from Spain. able, rich, patriotic colonials are utterly ignored. It is no wonder, then, that the latter looked on with indifference when Spain was in trouble, and seized an early opportunity of securing their own independence. That is the secret of Spain's deindependence. That is the secret of Spain's de-cay, of her loss of empire, of her fall from the foremost place among the world's great nations to a third or fourth rank among the minor States.

THE SNAKE SWALLOWING OPERATION. From The Indianapolis Journal.

ie following is an interesting paragraph in a r sent to friends here by Harry Hamond, nerly of this city, who is now making his home

merly of this city, who is now making his home Florida:
To-day I had the good luck to see a curious sight, to of one snake killing and swallowing another, came on the scene just as a king' snake skilling a blacksnake, each a little over three tong. The sing was tied and coiled around the ck, and the latter's tail could just wiggle. After we minutes, during which the king tied himself the most curious knots and ran his head up and in his victim's writhing body, biting it here and he as if examining his supper, he turned to the cks head, gave it a preliminary bite, and then siy proceeded to take the blacksnake into camp, cemed impossible that he could swallow a snake ong and as large as himself, but he did. This te would stretch his head as far as nossible.

THE CASE OF COQUELIN

seven others of considerable size, and uncounted hundreds of smaller ones, down to the merest dots of verdurous rock on the sea. They are all made of volcanic rock and coral, and abound in valuable minerals. The climate is tropical, but the height of the mountains and plateaus makes HIS RETURN TO THE COMEDIE FRAN-CAISE AND HOW IT WAS EFFECTED.

> THREE YEARS' INDULGENCE FOR HIM TO PLAY AT THE PORTE-SAINT-MARTIN AND A

profuse, comprising teak, sandal and camphor trees, palms, tea, a vast variety of spices and berfume-bearing flowers, rice, and the famous manila hemp. The fauna shows no dangarous beasts of prey save the crocodile. There are buffalces, pigs, antelopes, and monkeys and lemurs galore. As for the people, they are as much mixed as those of Spain itself. Negritos were probably autochthonous. Then Polynesians came in, and then Malays. Chinese also came in great numbers, aid of late years the Japanese have been flocking, with intent, it may well be, to possess the isla id, when the Spanish are expelled. The Spanish population is very small. Industry and commerce are considerable. There are steamship lines, railroads, telegraphs and cables, and a foreign trade of \$60,000,000 a year. Coquelin the elder is to return to \_e Comédie Française, and the great National Theatre France will possess once more the greatest of French comedians. The result has been brought about by legal process, and denotes the end of a long quarrel, in which not only the dramatic profession in France, but the department of the French Government that is concerned with the fostering of the drama-the Department of Public Instruction-has taken a lively interest and active participation. M. Coquelin, after thirty years of service in the House of Mollère, in which, as everybody knows, the chief actors and actresses have a sort of co-operative interest after a certain term of service, with a retiring pension, became involved in a quarrel with the management. The difficulty arose over his provincial tours, which, it appears, were undertaken contrary to

the terms of his engagement. In 1886 he was put upon the list of associates entitled to a pension. Now, in France, the Gov-ernment takes a keen interest in the details of the dramatic art which it fosters at the public expense, and among the regulations made end is the famous "Decree of Moscow," promul-



gated by Napoleon I, declaring that actors who

are associates of the Théâtre Français are forbidden to act in France beyond the limits of its stage. M. Coquelin, whether to secure the fame that might accrue to him from the exercise of his "star" actor, untrammelled by the rules and limitations of a stock company like the Comedie, or for the increased income that he hoped for, decided to break with the tional institution. He organized a stock company of his own and came to America returned to France engagement at the Porte-Saint-Martin Theatre; but the question of his right to act in Paris out-Comédie did not at that time come to a determination, for he was persuaded to to the scene of his former successes. He stayed there almost exactly three years, when he again broke with the Comedie, much as he had done Again he made a successful visit to the United States, and again he returned to Paris with an engagement at the Porte-Saint-Martin in his pocket. But this time the battle was to be fought out to the bitter end. Could Coquelin ainé be allowed to play at a rival theatre, when the Théâtre Français was lamenting his loss?

It became a great public question. Not only were the courts set at work; ministers of the Gov ernment were involved; the validity of a decree of the great Napoleon was in question; the public sed; the "sociétaires" of the Théâtre Francals met in heated controversy; above it all and through it all could be heard the vivacious note of the Paris press in a chorus of reports, rumors, omments, speculations and interviews. And finally the courts decide that Coquelin returns to the Comedie Française, and M. Rambaud, Min-ister of Public Instruction, fixes the terms upon which it shall be effected.

The sociétaires, the pillars of the company of the Theatre Français, who are financially interested, express deep disgust at the elemency extended to Coquelin; but the terms are scarcely easy for the comedian. The courts appeared to Mexico, in New Granada, in Buenos Ayres. The Viceroys were appointed by the King, and served him alone. The provinces under them were treated as conquered aliens. All the subordinate officers were imported from Spain. No colonist was reckoned worthy of recognition. Of 170 Viceroys who in three centuries ruled South America, only four were natives of that continent. Of 610 Capulla and Governors only fourteen were the sum of 130,000 francs, including the fine of 30, 600 francs imposed by the Court, and to relinquish mine the course in their erring brother's case. This meeting was, according to one of the participants who gave an account of it to one of the Paris papers, "somewhat incoherent." It was not only a meeting of Frenchmen, but a meeting of actors and actresses; and in fact the informant doubted if any one who was there could give an exact report of it. It was finally decided that they would be very generous and decline the 100,000 francs that Coquelin offered, except the 30,000 francs of fines, but that the director should the day he came back to the company which they

> But M. Coquelin declared it was quite impossible to accept these terms. He had contracts with the Porte-Saint-Martin Theatre which he could not meet in less than three years. M. Rambaud was the mediator through whom an understanding was reached. He was the final and official arbiter in the case; but the terms he proposed were such as both sides could agree to-possible for M. Coquelin to accept, with his existing contracts, and granting what the sociétaires demanded, though with an extension of the time in which the actor is to return to the company.

> The Minister's decision stands thus: Coquelin shall pay the fines imposed by the Court, 30,000 francs, and the costs of the proceedings; his pension shall be suspended during the time he plays outside the Comédie Française; he shall agree to deposit with the director the 100,000 francs which he agreed to forfelt, upon which interest shall be paid him at the rate of 3 per cent, and which shall be given back to him the day he returns to the Comédie, otherwise it shall be added to the pension fund, and M. Coquelin shall regain his free-

The interview in which these conditions were accepted was a most agreeable one. The minister asked the actor if Solomon could have determined the question more equitably, to which M. Coquelin replied that he could not; and that he was all the more rejoiced in that the day was a festival day for good Republicans-the 4th of September, the Re-

for good Republicans—the ten of September, the Re-public's sliver wedding day.

With these amenities the affair was settled.

Coquelin was seen that night by a reporter as he was rehearsing "Jacques Callot" in a rayishing He showed a telegram that he had just received from Sarah Bernhardt in Lyons: brace you with all my heart and am satisfied if you Victorien Sardou had some decided views upon

the Decree of Moscow, upon which the case of Coquelin was made to hinge. That decree bears defenders of the comedian, and hoped for a more favorable result than M. Claretie, director of the Comédie, would consent to. M. Rambaud, the min-ister, he thought, was put in an embarrassing poism that had no place in a republic. Under the absolute master who had issued it, and who could abolish or modify at his pleasure a law that he had made himself. But M. Rambaud, not being Napoleon, found his position difficult, placed as he was with the Decree of Moscow on one hand and what M. Sardou regarded as the sentiment of justice on the other. From which it appeared that there should be no more imperial institutions in a republic than republican institutions in an empire. The decision is received with various emotions at the Comedie itself, where some of the societaires are inclined to regard it as more a victory for Coquelin than for the institution, and to marvel at the result. Those who held an uncompromising attitude and were for sticking to general principles think that the entire responsibility should have been left to the Government. Those, on the other hand, who were aware to what point the all-powerful friends of Coquelin were determined to defend him, and wished him to derive from what they

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imum of moral and material advantage, believe that he has not got off so cheaply after all. For he must come back to the Comédie Française, which they maintain is a punishment for him in itself, or pay the various penalties imposed upon him, which they estimate will amount to at least 200,000 francs. In the Comédie, too, the Decree of Moscow is regarded as a bane and an undesirable relic of im-

It was asked of one of the leading members of

perialism.

It was asked of one of the leading members of the company, M. Le Bargy, whether Coquelin would not be of greater service to the interests of art at the Porte-Saint-Martin than at the Comédie, And this was the actor's judgment:

"Coquelin has proved himself at the Trêâtre Française an incomparable virtuoso, whose art is at once delicate and puissant, a master in all the word implies. He wishes to-day to pursue a different career and becomes a great popular actor. I don't doubt but that his achievements at the Porte-Saint-Martin will be entirely worthy of him. It is, moreover, a great advantage to be able to guide a theatre in the direction one wishes to follow, one's self, to favor the particular branch of the art that one prefers, and even to subordinate it to cre's own special talent. Coquelin is now to enjoy that pleasure. Truly, he was born under a lucky star; and if he is not tempted to go too far he will give us some interesting performances."

"Is there any doubt that Coquelin, at the end of his three years' leave, will be well received at the Comédie Française"

"He will be well received if he returns within the period fixed, which we think is too long; though time will help us to submit with a good grace. But I imagine that Coquelin will never come back to the Rue de Richelleu. He will want to reap the rich profits that the year of the Exposition (1900) will offer him at the Porte-Saint-Martin, and will ask for an extension of his time. The moment he does that, everybody will drop him, even the public which has applauded him, even his most enthusiastic comrades, even the most obliging government. "Whatever happens, he and his rights will be discussed with the respect and the veneration with which we have surrounded the masters like dot, Delaunay. Mounet-Sully and Worms, who, with talents as great as his, have shown themselves to be possessed of the calmest spirit and the noblest unselfishness."

AN OPERATION ON A SNAKE.

SURGEONS TAKE A BLANKET OUT OF A BOA CONSTRICTOR'S STOMACH.

From The Kansas City Star.

On Sunday, August 23, "The Star" told of Mrs. Rade Harden's pet African boa constrictor "Babe" having absent-mindedly swallowed the blanket on which it had been sleeping. Since that time "Babe" has lain in her box thinking the matter over and putting forth all her gastric powers to digest the blanket. But the blanket, being of good, stout Canton flannel, refused to yield to digestion, and it became a serious question whether or not it could stand the strain much longer. It was determined, therefore, to perform a surgical operation on "Babe" and remove the impediment.

At 9 o'clock this morning "Babe" was taken to the University Medical College at Tenth and Campbell sts., and placed on an operating table in a lecture-room. It was extremely lively as to the first four feet of its body and heavy as to the other four feet. The amphitheatre was filled with medical students, doctors and visitors. Mrs. Harden stood by "Babe," and encouraged it to endure the coming ordeal. Dr. L. Rosenwald took off his coat, rolled up his sleeves and announced that he was ready to relieve "Babe" of its burden. "Babe" ran its forked tongue in and out, caressing Mrs. Harden's cheeks and hands. Even the medical students shuddered.

While Dr. Moore administered chloroform to From The Kansas City Star.

its forked tongue in and out, caressing Mrs. Harden's cheeks and hands. Even the medical students shuddered.

While Dr. Moore administered chloroform to "Babe" Dr. Rosenwald drew rough plans and specifications of "Babe" on the blackbourd, and, addressing the students in technical language, explained that a similar operation had never been performed on a snake before, and that he would make an "exploratory incision" through the abdominal wall, the peritoneum and the stomach of the reptile, provided it had them, and recover the blanket if it was there. The students craned their necks and regarded the preparations with much interest.

"Babe" had in the mean time responded gracefully to the chloroform, and was insensible. An incision, five inches long, was made in the belly of the snake and hardly a drop of blood escaped. But the blanket was there and was drawn forth without trouble. It has been rolled into a cigar-shaped cylinder about two feet long and was as hard as a brick. It was covered with gastric juice, which was futilely endeavoring to do its work. The blanket looked as though it had been compressed by machinery. It had to be soaked in water before it could be unfolded. The stomach of the snake was as clean as a whistle, and after the blanket had been removed was as empty as a drum. Nine stitches were made in closing the wound, and the snake was taken out into the alley for fresh air. It was soon surrounded by students, small boys and colored women. In about five minutes its lungs filled with air and its forked tongue ran in and out, and Mrs. Harden, who was anxiously watching it, gave a sigh of relief.

"The so glad my 'Babe' didn't die," she exclaimed. "I couldn't spare my baby. I'd exoner have that snake around the house than lots of men."

Dr. Rosenwald said that the snake would surely recover, and prescribed a diet of raw eggs for it for two weeks, after which it may eat anything except Canton flannel blankets.

The owner of the boa constrictor conducts a restaurant near Fifth and Wyandotie sts. She

THEY ALWAYS DO.

From The Washington Times.

John R. Scott, a prominent member of the Bar in Albany, N. Y., is registered at the Raleigh. Said he last evening: "A neat rejoinder was made by Judge Charles O. Daly, Chief Justice of the New-York Court of Common Pleas, in a case he recently tried.

"The case involved a delicate question as to the construction of a statute, and the Judge, after long consideration, decided the question in open court, giving his reason in a few well-spoken remarks, which caused a luli in the courtroom. The silence was finally broken by the attorney for the successful party to the suit, who stood up and said, with an air of patronizing approval: "May it please Your Honor, I, for one, entirely agree with you." The venerable Chief Justice, with a twinkle in his eye, which betokened appreciation of the joke, but with a perfectly grave face, quietly removed his glasses, and, amid absolute slience of the spectators, said: 'I have, Counsellor, generally found in my experience that the successful attorney entirely agrees with the Court." From The Washington Times.

THOSE FUNNY COLLEGE BOYS. From The Philadelphia Record.

From The Philadelphia Record.

Knowing the horror with which the average policeman regards a college student, several University of Pennsylvania students started out to have some fun with the bluecoats on Thursday night. They purchased a barber pole from a retiring tonsorial artist, and immediately upon getting possession of it dashed like mad along Woodland-ave. Just as they neared Fortieth-st., a burly bluecoat, seeing a chance to make his reputation, commanded the supposed thieves to hait. Without being accused of anything they yelled in chorus: "We dinn't steal the pole. Indeed we didn't!" This declaration naturally caused the officer to think otherwise, and with drawn club he marched them off to the patrol box. After being taken to the station-house under protest, they produced the receipt for the barber pole and were allowed their liberty, much to the disgust of their captor. Not being satisfied with the success of their scheme thus far, the frolicsome students repeated their antics on Lancaster-ave, and were again arrested, and proved their innocence as before. After performing the same trick in other districts their scheme was discovered by a police sergeant, who telephoned to all the stations in West Philadelphia instructions not to arrest any crowd seen running with a barber pole. This mysterious order is causing much food for thought by the knights of the locus west of the Schuykill.

A SNAKE'S LONG JOURNEY,

From The Chicago Chronicle. From The Chicago Chronicle.

A blacksnake, measuring six and a half feet in length and five and a half inches around the largest part of its body, was found coiled around the axie of a Baitimore and Ohio Southwestern boxcar in the company's yards at Jeffersonville, Ind., the other morning. The snake was first seen in the Cincinnati yards by Conductor Cole several hours before, and an effort was then made to kill it, but the reptile crawled into a hole leading to the hoflow part of the wheel attached to the axie and was lost from view. The snake made the trip from Cincinnati to this city, a distance of 120 miles, and did not seem in the least disturbed thereby.